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how largely due to other causes. White women in Hawaii represent a highly selected class—the wives and families of capitalistic and professional classes. Many white women in Hawaii have enjoyed excellent health, have raised large families of stalwart children, and have lived to ripe old age.

On the whole, there is little evidence of tropical “enervation” or lassitude among the white population of the Hawaiian Islands. In high moral, intellectual and physical life, tone and labors, this population compares most favorably with similar groups in any northern climate. In spiritual leadership, in literary and artistic productivity, in scientific and technical research, in financial and business organization and development, in agricultural exploitation, in sport and athletics—in fact, in every notable manifestation of the human mind and body, the white man in Hawaii has achieved remarkable success. He shows no signs of deterioration; on the contrary, in his efforts toward higher civic life, and toward the establishment of a permanent white middle class on the land, he shows that he is ever progressing to higher and higher levels.

VAUGHAN MACCAUGHEY

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SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

Stoichiometry. By SYDNEY YOUNG, D.Sc., F.R.S. New York, Longmans, Green & Co. 1918. Pp. xii + 363. With 93 figures in the text. Second Edition. Price \$3.75 net.

It is unfortunate, indeed, that general texts are not more often written by those who have done much research in the particular lines covered by the book—for the advantages of such authorship are plainly apparent in “Stoichiometry.” Certainly no name of recent time has become more intimately associated with the *precise* determination of the physical constants of the gaseous and liquid states of aggregation than that of Young; and assuredly no one can speak with more authority than he of a subject which includes them; or treat with a clearer vision the things dependent upon them.

In this edition, the new experimental work, done since the original appearance of the book, has been ably summarized and included. In other respects, all that was said in praise of the first edition may be repeated even more emphatically in the case of the second. The inclusion of complete lists or references is one thing which renders the work especially valuable to the reader, for it thus serves as a point of departure for one wishing to make a more exhaustive study of any one of its component portions.

Like the same author’s “Fractional Distillation,” this is distinctly one of those books which should have a prominent place in every chemist’s *working* library.

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THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

THE eighth number of Volume 4 of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* contains the following articles:

Hereditary Tendency to Form Nerve Tumors: C. B. Davenport, Station for Experimental Evolution, Carnegie Institution of Washington. The disease is not communicable. It affects blood relatives, both sexes nearly equally, and occurs without a break in the generations, about 50 per cent. of the individuals being affected. Apparently, therefore, the heredity factor in neurofibromatosis is dominant.

Arithmetical Theory of Certain Hurwitzian Continued Fractions: D. N. Lehmer, Department of Mathematics, University of California. Investigations on the successive values of the numerators and denominators of convergents.

On Closed Curves Described by a Spherical Pendulum: Arnold Emch, Department of Mathematics, University of Illinois. Some geometric properties of these curves are developed.

The Taxonomic Position of the Genus Actinomyces: Charles Drechsler, Cryptogamic